

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to introduce new bills. Mr. President, new bills. (Read LBs 776-778 by title for the first time as found on page 1071 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, there will be a brief meeting of the Reference Committee underneath the south balcony for purposes of referring bills, Reference Committee underneath the south balcony right now for referring of bills. That is all that I have.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Moving on to motions, item 6, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schmit would move to refer back to the Education Committee pursuant to Rule 3, Section 17, LB 232, notwithstanding the action of the Education Committee.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, LB 232 provides the authorization for granting degrees, diplomas and certificates by any private, vocational, educational institution which complies with the requirements for accreditation. The bill was heard before the Education Committee and the Education Committee is willing to take the bill back to the committee and review the process and the procedure and then perhaps come up with a solution which we hope will be satisfactory to all concerned. I believe that Senator Withem and Senator Warner will speak on the issue. It's just asking for a motion to return the bill to committee. The bill was killed by the committee and Senator Warner and I introduced the bill. We're asking that it be returned to committee.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion? Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, members of the body, I would support Senator Schmit's motion, tell the body why this motion has to be here at this point. We heard LB 232 probably about a week ago in committee, and based upon the testimony we heard at the hearing, the committee was not favorably impressed with the bill. During the Exec Session we voted to indefinitely postpone this measure. Being the very efficient sort of chairman that I am, I immediately then carried the bill up the next day and laid it on the Clerk's desk reporting the bill to the floor as having been killed. Senator Schmit then approached me indicating that